



**BRIEFING: OCTOBER 2013 BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM # 4**

**TO:** Chairman Richard and Board Members

**FROM:** Ben Tripousis, Northern Regional Director  
Frank Vacca, Chief Program Manager  
Tom Fellenz, Chief Counsel

**DATE:** October 14, 2013

**RE:** Award of Regional Consultant Contracts for the Merced to Sacramento and Los Angeles/Anaheim to San Diego Project Sections

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**Introduction**

It is the California High-Speed Rail Authority's (Authority) intent to best serve the public interest by delivering all aspects of the California High-Speed Rail Program on schedule, at the lowest possible cost, and with quality that meets or exceeds acceptable industry and government standards. In May 2013, the Board directed Staff, through Resolutions HSRA 13-07 and 13-08 (attached), to prepare a new approach for re-advertisement of the Architectural and Engineering (A&E) contracts for the Merced to Sacramento and the Los Angeles to San Diego project sections. Staff developed a scope of work for the respective project sections based on need and the final drafts of the Requests for Qualification (RFQ) were presented to and approved by the Board in August 2013. (See attached Resolutions #HSRA 13-16 and 13-17). The RFQ's were advertised; Statements of Qualifications (SOQs) were received, evaluated and ranked. Negotiations with the best qualified firms are complete. Staff is now seeking Board approval to enter into contracts with the best qualified firms.

These contracts, as with all of the Authority's Architectural & Engineering (A&E) contracts, will contain the Board adopted 30 percent small business participation goal and a 30 day termination clause.

**Background**

**Merced to Sacramento**

Regional Consultants (RCs) are necessary for the completion of Project level environmental clearances as well as preliminary engineering work.

The Merced to Sacramento project section is 110 miles long running north from Merced Station through Modesto, Stockton, and up to Sacramento. Several alignment alternatives have been

identified, running adjacent to either existing BNSF or UPRR corridors. The Authority had a contract with AECOM for work related to this section through September 30, 2013.

Work completed under the AECOM contract for the Merced to Sacramento section includes the following:

- Scoping Report (Completed May 2010)
- Draft Purpose and Need Document (Completed May 2013)
- Working Draft Preliminary Alternatives Analysis (Completed September 2013)
- Stakeholder and Agency Coordination

Based on a qualitative risk-based assessment completed by senior management staff, the Board approved the development of a re-advertisement approach for the Merced to Sacramento section in May 2013. Authority staff has developed a scope of work for the Merced to Sacramento section based on need and Board direction. The scope of work is consistent with the Authority's 2012 Business Plan and SB 1029. The work scope and RFQ was approved by the Board in August 2013. The RFQ was advertised, SOQs were received, evaluated and ranked. Negotiations with the best qualified firm, Precision Civil Engineering, Inc. are complete.

Precision Civil Engineering, Inc. (PCE) is a certified Small Business located in the Central Valley. While PCE's corporate office is in Fresno, it has additional offices in Bakersfield, Granite Bay, Paso Robles, and Scottsdale, Arizona. The company's previous projects include Utility Design and Environmental Clearance of the Fresno County Heavy Maintenance Facility; coordination of the Authority's April 2012 Business Plan rollout in Fresno; provided expertise in Civil Engineering and Land Surveying services for the construction of the Veterans Home of California, a 300-room senior-living development, including a two-story central operations building and a central plant, and development of the Authority's Central Valley Stakeholder Database. The PCE team will be based in Sacramento and has shown itself to be capable of providing the necessary outreach, engineering, planning and environmental review services required to move the Merced to Sacramento project segment forward. Based in the Central Valley the PCE team possesses a unique understanding of the potential alignments and surrounding communities that will comprise the Merced to Sacramento corridor. PCE has committed 100 percent SB participation on this contract.

### Los Angeles to San Diego

The Los Angeles to San Diego project section is 167 miles long running east from Los Angeles Union Station to the Inland Empire cities of Pomona and Ontario, then turning south along either I-215 or I-15 to San Diego. The Authority had an existing contract with HNTB for work related to this section through September 30, 2013.

Work completed under the HNTB contract for the Los Angeles to San Diego section includes the following:

- Scoping Report (Completed June 2010)
- Draft Purpose and Need Document (Completed March 2011)
- Preliminary Alternatives Analysis (Completed March 2011)
- Stakeholder and Agency Coordination

- Caltrans Section Report (Completed June 2013)
- Draft Alignment Refinement Report (Completed July 2013)

Based on a qualitative risk-based assessment completed by senior management staff, the Board approved the development of a re-advertisement approach for the Los Angeles to San Diego section in May 2013. Authority staff has developed a scope of work for the Los Angeles to San Diego section based on need and Board direction. The scope of work is consistent with the Authority's 2012 Business Plan and SB 1029. The work scope and RFQ was approved by the Board in August 2013. The RFQ was advertised, SOQs were received, evaluated and ranked. Negotiations with the best qualified firm, CH2M Hill, are complete.

CH2M Hill has 28,000 employees on six continents working on a broad spectrum of some of the most complex projects worldwide. CH2M Hill has partnered with clients in energy, water, environment and infrastructure to design and deliver long lasting solutions. From sewerage programs in London and Abu Dhabi to major highways and airports in the United States, CH2M Hill's project experience is diverse and well tested. CH2M Hill is the only engineer-procure-construct company that offers the scope and scale necessary to this task, setting the firm apart in its capability to partner with clients and achieve strategic and operational goals for local communities

CH2M Hill provides a seasoned, experienced team that can work collaboratively with Authority staff to establish a clear vision for the Los Angeles to San Diego project section that effectively incorporates stakeholder input in the refinement of proposed corridors and early investment projects. The CH2M Hill team meets the Authority's Small Business goal with a commitment of 35 percent, inclusive of 14 percent Disadvantaged Business Enterprise and 3 percent Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise participation. The CH2M Hill team has the longest continuous record of experience in the Los Angeles to San Diego project section from 2000 to the present. Consequently, the CH2M Hill team can provide the highest level of continuity and understanding of Authority goals.

## **Discussion**

The procurement process for the Merced to Sacramento and Los Angeles to San Diego sections has been managed directly by Authority staff consistent with the State's competitive A&E procurement processes. RFQ's were issued and A&E consultants submitted SOQs to be evaluated by Authority staff in accordance with the Authority's administrative regulations. Authority staff held oral discussions with submitters on September 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> 2013 to serve as the basis for ranking the top proposers. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or his designee negotiated a contract with the top ranked consultants. Authority staff is now submitting its recommendation to the Board for approval. If approved by the Board, the CEO, on behalf of the Authority, would then enter into a contract with PCE and CH2M Hill.

## **Merced – Sacramento**

Staff recommends Board approval to enter into an A&E contract with PCE for an amount up to \$1.0 million and a term of 2 years. A summary of the scope for the contract is as follows:

- Prepare Draft and Final Alternatives Analysis Document, as well as any related planning and design documents.
- Prepare a Final Purpose and Need Statement.
- Support Stakeholder and Agency Coordination consistent with the Authority's goals.
- Support the Authority on as needed basis in station area planning, sustainability, private investment opportunities, implementation and regional connectivity planning.

The Authority Contract Manager will administer the contract through the issuance of task orders based on PCE's approved work plan.

### Los Angeles – San Diego

Staff recommends Board approval to enter into an A&E contract with CH2M Hill for an amount up to \$2.0 million and a term of 2 years. A summary of the scope for the contract is as follows:

- Finalizing the Draft Alignment Refinement Report
- Supporting Stakeholder and Agency Coordination consistent with the Authority's goals
- Advancing the Supplemental Alternatives Analyses through further study of existing alignments
- Supporting the Authority on as needed basis in station area planning, sustainability, private investment opportunities and implementation planning.

The Authority Contract Manager will administer the contract through the issuance of task orders based on CH2M Hill's approved work plan.

### **Recommendations**

Staff recommends Board approval to enter into an A&E contract with Precision Civil Engineering, Inc. for an amount up to \$1.0 million and a term of 2 years.

Staff recommends Board approval to enter into an A&E contract with CH2M Hill for an amount up to \$2.0 million and a term of 2 years.

### **Attachments**

- Resolution #HSRA 13-07
- Resolution #HSRA 13-08
- Resolution #HSRA 13-16
- Resolution #HSRA 13-17
- Resolution #HSRA 13-27
- Resolution #HSRA 13-28